

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Crop Weather

Milk Production

Cattle on Feed

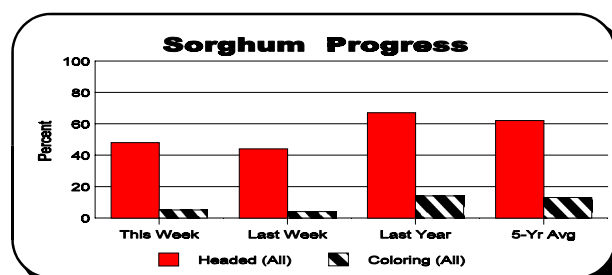
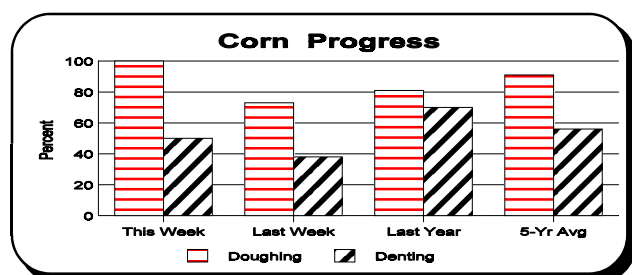
Available on Internet at: www.nass.usda.gov/nm OR by e-mail (call 1-800-530-8810 for information)

CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 24, 2003

NEW MEXICO: There were 7.0 days suitable for fieldwork. Wind damage was 6% light and 2% moderate. Farmers spent the week cutting alfalfa hay, harvesting green chile, irrigating, and cutting silage. Alfalfa conditions were showing little change remaining in mostly poor to good condition with reports of failing condition and production due to the hot dry weather. Farmers reported that the third cutting of alfalfa was complete, the fourth being 86% complete, and the fifth cutting 33% complete. Corn conditions dropped slightly but remained in mostly fair to good condition with the crop at 100% doughed and 50% in the denting stage. Cotton has completed setting bolls with 20% of the crop opening. Conditions for cotton drifted toward mostly fair to good. Total sorghum remained in mostly very poor to fair condition. Total sorghum progress was reported very slow with 48% of the crop headed and 5% coloring. Peanuts remained in mostly fair condition with 100% of the crop pegging. Fall lettuce was reported in good to excellent condition with 92% planted. Chile showed slight improvement reporting in mostly fair to good condition and the green chile harvest was 42% complete. Pecan conditions showed a slight drop, listed as fair to excellent. Pecan drop was listed as 40% below average, 55% above average, and 5% heavy drop. Eddy county reported presence of armyworms in alfalfa, others reporting that the weather is too hot and dry for most insects. Ranchers spent the week maintaining water supplies and supplemental feeding. Ranchers are culling off cows while some continue to sell off herds due to drought conditions, they are also selling underweight calves earlier than usual. The broom snakeweed and other noxious weeds are dying because it is so dry. Reports that water supplies, wells, springs, and river flows have decreased. Cattle conditions reported at 14% very poor, 18% poor, 31% fair, 22% good, and 15% excellent. Sheep were listed as 26% very poor, 12% poor, 19% fair, 35% good, 8% excellent. Range and pasture was reported as 57% very poor, 26% poor, 16% fair, and 1% good.

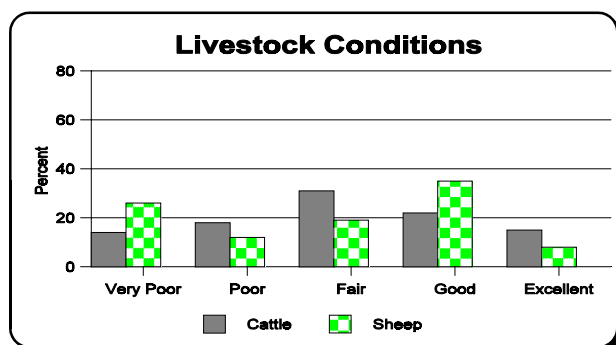
CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE	Harvested-Green	42	36	53	35
CORN	Doughing	100	73	81	91
CORN	Denting	50	38	70	56
COTTON	Opening Bolls	20	8	44	30
LETTUCE	Planted	92	90	53	75
SORGHUM (All)	Headed	48	44	67	62
SORGHUM (All)	Coloring	5	4	14	13



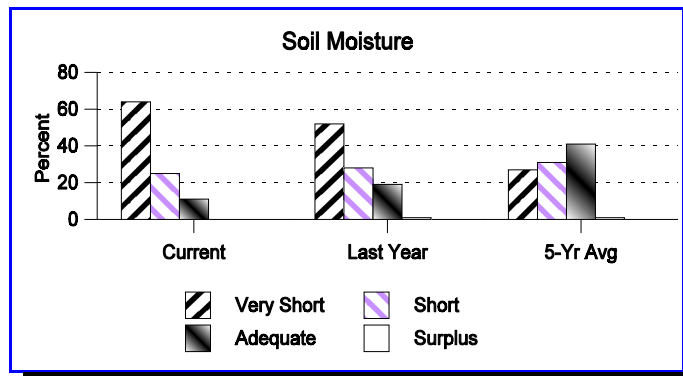
CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	10	17	38	30	5
Apples	10	80	10	--	--
Chile	--	8	30	56	6
Corn	--	10	44	42	4
Cotton	4	9	39	41	7
Lettuce	--	--	--	60	40
Peanuts	--	1	67	30	2
Pecans	--	--	37	53	10
Sorghum (All)	30	27	40	3	--
Cattle	14	18	31	22	15
Sheep	26	12	19	35	8
Range/Pasture	57	26	16	1	--



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	70	15	15	--
Northeast	51	42	7	--
Southwest	100	--	--	--
Southeast	72	11	17	--
State	64	25	11	--
State-Last Year	52	28	19	1
State-5-Yr Avg.	27	31	41	1



WEATHER SUMMARY

It was another warm summer week in New Mexico with temperatures averaging 4 to 5 degrees above normal. Carlsbad, Tucumcari, and Las Cruces all hit 100 degrees early in the week. About two-thirds of reporting locations measured some rainfall from mainly afternoon and early night-time thunderstorms. Greatest totals included .96 inches at Los Alamos, .80 inches at Ruidoso, and .75 inches at Las Cruces.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS AUGUST 18- 24, 2003

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	08/18 08/24	08/01 08/24	Normal Aug	01/01 08/24	Normal Jan-Aug
Carlsbad	81.6	100	63	0.02	0.86	2.25	4.17	7.99
Tatum	78.1	95	60	T	0.11	2.48	4.90	11.17
Roswell	80.1	99	63	T	0.32	2.03	2.65	8.77
Clayton	78.9	97	59	0.00	0.01	2.61	8.26	11.61
Clovis	79.4	97	59	0.00	0.25	3.17	8.23	12.74
Roy	--	--	--	0.00	1.57	2.81	4.37	11.84
Tucumcari	82.2	100	60	0.16	0.79	2.41	9.27	10.98
Chama	62.5	87	37	0.63	1.54	2.82	10.37	13.90
Johnson Ranch	69.9	91	46	0.19	1.01	2.29	4.80	7.72
Capulin	68.7	88	48	0.13	1.32	2.56	9.21	13.08
Las Vegas	69.5	89	50	0.35	0.50	3.71	3.57	12.78
Los Alamos	68.1	85	53	0.96	2.18	3.52	6.24	13.18
Raton	70.9	94	49	T	1.63	3.21	7.35	13.03
Santa Fe	71.5	93	49	0.34	0.58	2.39	3.09	10.03
Red River	57.4	76	39	0.25	2.82	3.10	12.53	15.03
Farmington	76.0	95	57	0.43	0.67	1.05	2.76	5.36
Gallup	70.4	88	51	0.06	2.37	2.26	4.21	8.36
Grants	70.6	91	49	0.02	1.28	2.16	3.31	6.95
Silver City	73.3	90	56	0.22	1.15	3.09	3.78	10.64
Quemado	67.2	85	47	0.15	2.13	3.12	5.88	9.68
Albuquerque	79.7	97	64	0.11	0.66	1.64	3.42	6.06
Carrizozo	75.3	96	56	0.00	2.08	2.69	5.46	8.24
Gran Quivera	74.0	96	54	0.02	0.42	3.27	3.55	10.79
Moriarty	74.0	97	53	0.01	0.99	2.69	4.11	9.06
Ruidoso	66.8	84	49	0.80	3.14	4.04	7.58	15.03
Socorro	75.8	97	55	T	0.73	1.90	1.93	5.84
Alamogordo	83.0	100	66	0.00	0.03	2.41	2.42	7.92
Animas	80.8	98	64	0.00	0.43	2.34	1.89	7.08
Deming	81.6	100	65	0.23	0.82	2.05	3.65	6.48
T or C	80.4	97	65	0.02	0.80	2.15	2.27	6.59
Las Cruces	82.6	104	64	0.75	1.55	2.29	4.96	5.92

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

MILK PRODUCTION

NEW MEXICO: Hot weather continues throughout the state affecting production. However, despite the stress milk production in New Mexico during July totaled 567 million pounds, higher than the previous month's production of 565 million pounds. Production per cow remained at 1,795 pounds. The average number of milk cows on farms in the state increased by 1,000 head to 316,000. The increase represents an increase of 4.3 percent over the number of milk cows on July 2002, when 303,000 milk cows were reported.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 20 major States during July totaled 12.4 billion pounds, up 0.6 percent from July 2002. June revised production, at 12.4 billion pounds, was up 0.1 percent from June 2002. The June revision represented an increase of 0.3 percent or 33 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,590 pounds for July, 12 pounds above July 2002. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 15,000 head less than July 2002, and 9,000 head less than June 2003.

Milk Cows and Production: June 2003^{1/} and July 2002-2003

State	Milk Cows ^{2/}			Milk per Cow ^{3/}			Milk Production ^{3/}		
	7/02	6/03	7/03	7/02	6/03	7/03	7/02	6/03	7/03
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	148	150	150	1,850	1,965	1,805	274	295	271
CA	1,647	1,691	1,693	1,810	1,750	1,750	2,981	2,959	2,963
FL	149	142	141	1,250	1,295	1,220	186	184	172
ID	392	407	408	1,810	1,840	1,880	710	749	767
IL	115	110	109	1,420	1,525	1,490	163	168	162
IN	150	143	143	1,410	1,500	1,505	212	215	215
IA	210	201	200	1,495	1,550	1,560	314	312	312
KY	123	117	115	1,035	1,025	1,005	127	120	116
MI	301	299	299	1,665	1,710	1,750	501	511	523
MN	485	475	475	1,415	1,470	1,455	686	698	691
MO	137	130	129	1,120	1,220	1,170	153	159	151
NM	303	315	316	1,810	1,795	1,795	548	565	567
NY	680	680	679	1,535	1,490	1,500	1,044	1,013	1,019
OH	263	261	261	1,390	1,450	1,450	366	378	378
PA	584	578	574	1,525	1,480	1,500	891	855	861
TX	307	312	312	1,355	1,510	1,430	416	471	446
VT	154	148	148	1,480	1,500	1,505	228	222	223
VA	120	116	115	1,275	1,220	1,210	153	142	139
WA	248	244	244	1,965	1,910	1,965	487	466	479
WI	1,265	1,256	1,255	1,455	1,500	1,510	1,841	1,884	1,895
20 STS	7,781	7,775	7,766	1,578	1,590	1,590	12,281	12,366	12,350

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

CATTLE ON FEED

NEW MEXICO: Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in New Mexico for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 116,000 on August 1, 2003. This represents a 6.4 percent increase over the previous year's total of 109,000 head on feed for the slaughter market. Placements in feedlots during July remained constant at 21,000 head. Marketings of fed cattle increased to 17,000, a 30.8 percent increase over the previous month's total of 13,000 head. Other disappearance remained at 3,000 head.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.59 million head on August 1, 2003. The inventory was 5 percent below August 1, 2002 and 12 percent below August 1, 2001. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.99 million, 8 percent above 2002 and slightly above 2001. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 2.27 million, 4 percent above 2002 and 11 percent above 2001. Other disappearance totaled 60,000 during July, 33 percent above 2002 and 2 percent above 2001.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance ^{2/}		
	8/1/02	7/1/03	8/1/03	-----DURING-----								
				7/02	6/03	7/03	7/02	6/03	7/03	7/02	6/03	7/03
	-----1,000 Head-----											
AZ	285	266	271	26	34	32	31	32	26	1	2	1
CA	485	490	485	59	73	66	56	63	67	3	5	4
CO	990	890	860	190	*125	175	225	*220	200	5	5	5
ID	285	255	240	52	63	56	66	67	70	1	1	1
IA	320	310	290	44	34	51	72	63	70	2	1	1
KS	2,140	2,160	2,180	510	415	570	520	510	540	10	15	10
NE	1,790	1,690	1,570	400	270	350	495	500	460	5	10	10
NM	109	115	116	18	21	21	9	13	17	1	3	3
OK	310	350	335	60	52	75	74	59	85	1	3	5
SD	160	167	148	18	27	21	30	55	38	3	3	2
TX	2,740	2,820	2,690	390	470	475	490	520	590	10	10	15
WA	165	160	170	39	39	50	53	38	39	1	1	1
Oth Sts	310	250	230	34	49	50	72	82	68	2	2	2
US	10,089	9,923	9,585	1,840	*1,672	1,992	2,193	*2,222	2,270	45	61	60

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ^{2/} Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding. * Revised.